Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

35. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for generating a plurality of facial image templates for a plurality of face classes, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an input facial image and a plurality of facial image templates, each facial image template of said plurality of facial image templates previously generated for each face class of said plurality of face classes;

means for determining correlation between said input facial image and said each facial image template;

means for classifying said input facial image into one of said plurality of face classes based on the determined correlation between said input facial image and said each facial image template; and

means for generating said plurality of facial image templates representing orientations of said input facial images.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said means for generating said plurality of facial image templates comprises:

a storage for storing a coefficient data set pre-set for each face class;

means for generating a prediction equation based on the coefficient data set, where said coefficient data set is read out from said storage based on a class determined by said means for classifying said input facial image into one of said plurality of face classes; and

means for solving said prediction equation to generate said plurality of facial image

templates.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said means for generating said plurality of facial image templates comprises

means for generating said plurality of facial image templates having consecutive values on a line interconnecting said plurality of facial image templates.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein said means for determining correlation comprises

means for detecting a distance by calculating correlation between an input facial image and each template of said plurality of facial image templates generated initially for said each face class.

39. (Previously Presented) A method for generating a plurality of facial image templates for a plurality of face classes, said method comprising:

receiving an input facial image and a plurality of facial image templates, each facial image template of said plurality of facial image templates previously generated for each face class of said plurality of face classes;

determining correlation between said input facial image and said each facial image template;

classifying said input facial image into one of said plurality of face classes based on the determined correlation between said input facial image and said each facial image template; and

generating said plurality of facial image templates representing orientations of said input

facial images.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said generating said plurality of facial image templates comprises:

storing in a storage a coefficient data set pre-set for each face class;

generating a prediction equation based on the coefficient data set, where said coefficient data set is read out from said storage based on a class determined by said classifying said input facial image into one of said plurality of face classes; and

solving said prediction equation to generate said plurality of facial image templates.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said generating said plurality of facial image templates comprises

generating said plurality of facial image templates having consecutive values on a line interconnecting said plurality of facial image templates.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said determining correlation comprises

detecting a distance by calculating correlation between an input facial image and each template of said plurality of facial image templates generated initially for said each face class.

43 - 52. (Canceled)